

"THE HEALTH HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION."

This is a new one in San Francisco and it not only wants to get members who shall pay "Two Dollars (\$2.00) for and as an examination fee * * * and fifty cents membership fee * * * and thirty-five cents per week or \$1.40 per month * * * or \$15.00 for one year, in advance" but this goes some of the others a little better. This Association also wants to sell stock at \$100.00 per share to trusting and confiding physicians! The "member" gets the usual form of contract to give him medical and surgical care and dental care as well, and all that sort of thing, and in the end the "member" gets just what he pays for—medical care at the rate of "thirty-five cents a week." Why will physicians permit themselves to be used by these concerns? It is hard to say; if all physicians would refuse to have anything to do with them, they would cease to exist. But then, if everybody did everything that he should do, we would have no need for legislatures or laws or courts or jails or little trifles like that. It looks like plain old human nature, again! One interesting thing in connection with the "Health Hospital Association" is the type line at the bottom of the application form and also of the contract form. At the bottom, in small type, are, respectively, "Form 14. C. Co., N. Y." and "Form 15. C. Co., N. Y." It looks as though these blanks are a regular stock form gotten up by some New York concern for the use of these many mushroom "Health Associations" that spring up all over the country.

"CONCERNING COURTESY."

A little leaflet with that title was issued by the Lackawanna Railroad for distribution to its agents, conductors and representatives who come in contact with the public. Who wrote it is not known, but it certainly ought to be studied by everyone who comes in contact with the public or with any number of people.

"The principle that underlies courteous treatment of others is simply that of doing unto others as you would they should do unto you."

"Words are only one means of expression and *manner* is quite as important; therefore remember that a kindly and gracious manner is not only the sign and mark of a self-respecting man but is to your words what oil is to machinery in making them move effectively to their purpose."

"True courtesy is no respecter of persons. It remembers that 'a man's a man for a' that,' and gives the civil word and the helping hand quite as readily to the illclad stranger as to an official of the company."

"Courtesy is not only something the public have a right to expect of you but it *pays*."

What has this to do with medicine? Much, if you just think of it and see the physicians about you who are well liked and successful in "holding their families"—and those who are not. One sees many a physician who is a failure and a nuisance to himself because he could not understand that "courtesy pays."

POETIC RECOGNITION.

In a poem entitled "The Marriage of the Seas," by Stephen Phillips, which appeared in a recent number of a popular magazine, is a verse quite unusual in that it sings the praises of medical science and of sanitation in the work of digging the big canal.

"Nor hast thou played, America, this part
Alone in conflict, but in healing art,
Since thou didst gird thyself a foe intense
To vaporous poison, and to pestilence;
And to the fatal fly with baleful breath,
That bears on gaudy wings the buzzing death.
That air that once was mortal now is pure,
And Eden rose a garden sweet, secure
Where Goethals wrought in energy aflame,
Let Gorgas raise an equal plea for fame;
Who from the pest house and the evil fen
Conjured a breathing paradise for men."

It certainly is a great pleasure to see that public recognition is being given to the monumental work of scientific medicine at Panama; slowly but surely the people are beginning to learn that the canal has not been dug by steam shovels and by dynamite, but by the quiet work of scientific medicine, the work that turned one of the pest holes of the world into one of its healthiest spots, and, by making it possible for man to live there, made it possible for Goethals to dig his ditch. All the engineers and all the enormous machinery for moving earth and rocks that they could invent and build would never have dug the canal; scientific medicine dug the Panama Canal.

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CHANGE OF AD-
DRESS AT ONCE.**